



Arlington Economic Development Recovery Task Force Minutes

Date: Tuesday June 16, 2020

Time: 2:00-3:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95275779874>

Meeting ID: 952 7577 9874

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Present: Jennifer Raitt, Dept. of Planning and Community Development; Rachel Zsemlery, Arlington Redevelopment Board; Michelle Casey, Marchelle Salone; Alyssa Clossey, Support Arlington Center; Tom Formicola, Arlington Center for the Arts; Erik Kondo, Broadway Athletics; Beth Locke, Arlington Chamber of Commerce; Sarah Morgan-Wu, The Object of Stories; Janet O'Riordan, Old Schwamb Mill; Dorothy Zahir, Leader Bank; Bob Bowes, Bowes Real Estate; Leland Stein, Regent Theater; Tim Haley, Ellenhorn; Emily Shea, Kickstand Café; Bootsy Mullan, Town Tavern

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Jenny Raitt welcomed participants and thanked them for continuing to serve on Arlington's Economic Development Recovery Task Force. The group made individual introductions.

2. Public Health update

A representative from Health and Human Services was unable to participate. Jenny provided an update on the current status of cases and deaths. Jenny also provided an update on the Town's current practices in compliance with the Governor's orders for Phase II.

3. Temporary Outdoor Dining License update

Jenny provided an update on the spaces in Arlington Center that were designated by the Select Board for outdoor dining and the number of businesses showing interest in using spaces. Ali is continuing to work with business owners,

restaurants specifically, to gauge their seating needs and interest in using outdoor seating space.

4. Focus Group summary

This item was deferred to the next Task Force meeting.

5. Park and Recreation Commission recommendations

Jenny discussed the importance of attending the commission meeting in order for business owners and local institutions that are interested in utilizing park and other outdoor Town-owned spaces to vocalize their support of and interest in this proposal. Task force members emphasized how important it is for businesses to be able to utilize Town park facilities for fitness and other potential uses such as art classes. Members discussed logistics of utilizing spaces and wondered about the Town providing space for storage of equipment, sanitization of spaces, outdoor restrooms, and other potential amenities in order to accommodate businesses accessing the opportunity. They also hoped for an expedited, low to no cost application process. Jenny will send details about the June 30th meeting to the task force for them to participate, if possible.

6. Arlington Consumer Survey

Jenny shared the preliminary results of the survey with members. Questions included how we might utilize and share the information, additional questions we may need to ask business owners and consumers, and how the business climate shifts daily because of consumer uncertainty and lack of confidence. A formal summary will be provided as a follow-up.

7. Next steps – Next meeting will be on June 23rd at 2:00 PM.